

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Gross et al.  
Serial No.: 10/608,777  
For: System and Method of Publishing  
Filed: June 27, 2003  
Examiner: Michael K. Botts  
Art Unit: 2176  
Confirmation No.: 8125  
Customer No.: 27,623

Attorney Docket No.: 2190.002USU

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.132**

I, Anne Lindsay Fetter, PhD, declare and say that:

1. I have a PhD in Developmental and Educational Psychology from Boston College, an M Ed from the University of New Hampshire and BA in Economics from Williams College. I am employed by Innovative Tailor-made Training and Technology, Inc. (ITTT) as Chief Statistician and Research Methodologist. My current major function with ITTT (which focuses on Educational Technology) is that I led the writing of the Enhancing Education Through Technology ("EETT") grant issued by the California Department of Education for major a rural school district ( $n > 3,000$ ). We were awarded \$414,000 for Year One. I am the Chief Evaluator for this two-year study. In my previous position (which I held for two years) I was also the Chief Statistician and Research Methodologist for LeapFrog SchoolHouse, a maker of educational products for young

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children. Prior to that position I was (and still am) the Principal at Research, Consulting, and Design, Inc. since 1990.

2. I am an expert in statistics, research design and methodology, educational technology, scientifically based research, as well as in Developmental and Educational Psychology and early childhood education (MEd). I have nearly two decades of experience in scientifically based research.
3. I have read and understand the claims of the present application, and know that it covers the product Blank Slate™ Board Book Kits that I am using to seek funding opportunities so that we can study its scientifically based efficacy. We are attempting to demonstrate to the NCLB What Works Clearinghouse (<http://www.w-w-c.org>) "Gold-Standard" the efficacy of Blank Slate™ Board Book Kits and make recommendations for further personalization.
4. I have not been exposed to such a customized book as that described in this application, or a method of self-publishing or making such a customized book by a user, nor have I experienced such a book and method that has such a significant benefit to children, especially children that cannot communicate verbally. I have seen or tested virtually every high-tech and low-tech literary product that has been developed in the last 20 years and there is nothing on the market or in development that I know of that has the benefits of Blank Slate™ Books. It is highly flexible, can be used to produce books in class instantly and is durable enough for heavy usage by small children. It also allows us to customize and personalize books for each child and it allows us to make just one copy, or many copies. For example, when we work with a learning disadvantaged child we can make one book for one child about the "Letter A" and for

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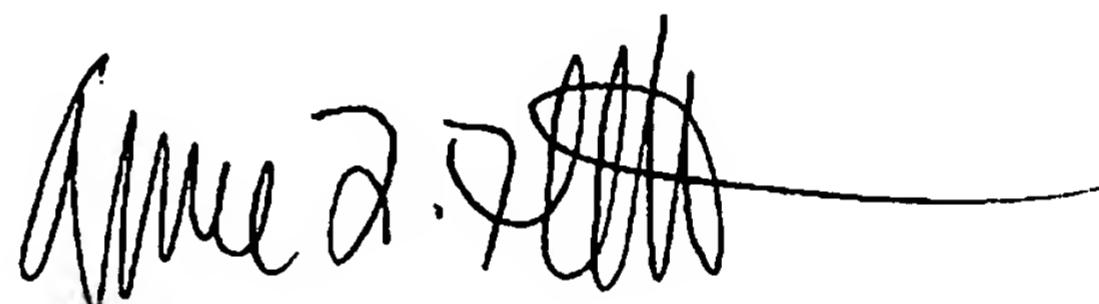
another child, a book that covers A to Z but only has pictures of musical instrument or sports figures. It allows us to do anything a child is interested in.

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne L. Fetter, PhD  
415.533.5637 c

July 25, 2006

**AFFADAVIT**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne L. Fetter", is written over a horizontal line.

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I, Carol Bell, declare and say that:

1. I have been employed by Center for Best Practices in Early Childhood Education, for over 13 years as curriculum integration specialist
  
2. My position entails coordinating two early childhood technology projects funded by the Office of Special Education Programs. In this role, I currently work with a birth to three project. As part of my role on this project, I look for technology products that will assist children in strengthening developmental skills in six areas; gross motor, fine motor, cognitive, self-help, communication, and social. I also work with a technology literacy curriculum. In this role, I work with educators as we seek to use technology tools to improve emergent literacy for preschoolers.

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3. I have read and understand the claims of the present application, and know that it covers the product that I am using for developing literacy by producing books related to children's experiences.
4. I believe that my professional experience qualifies me as one skilled in the art of knowing what is needed in the early childhood and technology field and knowing how difficult it is to put these products together. It is especially important for a family member and/or educator who can use this product to benefit a child, but has little time or technology skills to make a book.
5. I have not been exposed to such a customized book that includes a template and a board book. This package is especially important to young children who have little language and/or physical impairments and who would benefit from an easy to put together book that includes concepts and or images that are familiar.
6. I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent.

Respectfully submitted,



August 7, 2006

**AFFADAVIT**